

## **Citizen Sleuths :**

### **Axe : Citoyenneté, mondes virtuels.**

John and Jane Dae

## **Wednesday, March 20th 2024.**

### **Voc :**

a cold case = A criminal case that still hasn't been solved

a John/Jane Dae = The name given to unidentified victims

Ballistics : The science of bullets trajectories and knife attack

a copycat crime = When a criminal mimics another famous crime

a Trophy = A piece of someone kept by the killer

Rigor mortis = When the muscles of a corpse are stiffened, making its limits unmovable.

## **Trailer for the movie Searching (2018)**

This document under study is a trailer. A girl has disappeared and her father is looking for her using a computer. We can see him. The whole movie is set from the computer screen as if we were looking at what the dad sees like a first person game. The dad searches through social medias, land accounts, security cameras (cctv). He is contacting all of the friends she has in order to know her last whereabouts. The more he is looking into her life. As more he discovers he might have been to the realization he doesn't know her that well.

### **Voc :**

websleuths =

shunned = mis à l'écart

whereabouts = allées et venues

## **Websleuths :**

1) Websleuths are « amateurs competing online to solve cases. »

2) Websleuths investigate in many cases involving disappearances, unidentified bodies, and instances where individuals have been murdered, dumped, or unclaimed. For example, a person who leaves for work and vanishes. Or, a woman boards a bus and never gets off. Or, when a body turns up lacking identity. Generally they investigate when a person is lost, murdered, unclaimed.

3) Brennan Temperance's opinion of websleuths is somewhat critical. He refers to them as "Wannabe forensic scientists and cops" and suggests that they are overzealous viewers of crime, he doesn't outright dismiss their efforts, as he later engages with Hazel Strike

in a conversation about the importance of solving cases involving forgotten or unidentified dead. He is contemptuous of websleuths. According to him, they are wannabe forensic scientists and cops, overzealous viewers of series and sitcoms.

4) Hazel Strike believes what they do is important because they focus on cases where individuals have disappeared or died under mysterious circumstances, often without the recognition or closure that comes with traditional funeral rites. Strike highlights the prevalence of such cases and emphasizes that websleuthing provides a means to address this issue by attempting to solve them and bring closure to the families and communities affected. They help to solve problems, they help suffering people and families waiting for someone, they prevent the forgotten dead.

### **Billy Jensen's novel extract.**

1) Billy Jensen is an American true crime investigate journalist and producer, focusing on unsolved crimes and missing persons. After several years of writing hundred of stories, he decided to try to solve the murders and find the missing himself. He wrote about this in the New York Times bestseller ***Chase darkness with me.***

2) The methods he employs are built from social networks utilisation :

\_he posts videos or photographs of a person and asks users of the social network. These users are also solicited to share the questions with their friends ;

\_the second part of the plan is geotargeting, i.e. identifying the location where he wants to share the photos or videos.

3) His methods differ from traditional methods for two reasons :

\_the utilisation of social networks with thousands of followers ;

\_he accepts to pay a social network as Facebook to boost the post ;  
the more he pays, the more he reaches people.

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